



# *News from* **SALEM COUNTY**

## Office of Public Information

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Dr. Robin B. Weinstein, Public Information Officer  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 15, 2011

### **AUGUST 2011 STORM ASSESSMENT**

(SALEM, NJ)—Freeholder Bruce Bobbitt, Chair of the County Public Works Committee, and Deputy Director David Lindenmuth, Chair of the County Public Safety Committee, today announced the initial report of the storms that hit Salem County on Sunday, August 14, 2011.

“The storm that hit our County on Sunday hit us quick and hard,” said Freeholder Bruce Bobbitt. “Many of our areas saw the worst flooding that they have seen for many years. Our public works crews were out beginning at 10:30 AM and were working in tandem with local officials to address concerns as they arose. However, the effects of the significant rainfall did test our resources and ability to respond quickly. The widespread flooding throughout the County depleted our signage and barricades, forcing us to ask the State for assistance. That being said, our county public works and engineering departments did a great job in doing what they could in the face of difficult and trying circumstances.”

County roads that are closed as a result of the storm include: Almond Road, Bridgeton Road, Deerfield Road, Burlington Road, Centerton Road and Main Street in Elmer, Front Street in Elmer, State Street in Elmer, Broad Street in Elmer, Porchtown Road, Parvins Mill Road, and Olivet Road. Trees were down on the following roads: Pole Tavern/Daretown Road, Bridgeton Road, Burlington Road, Greenville Road, Garden Road, Almond Road, Husted Station Road, and Upper Neck Road. Wires were down on the following roads: Pole Tavern/Daretown Road, Burlington Road, and Greenville Road.

“We saw flooding throughout the County, but particularly in Alloway, Pittsgrove, Elmer and Upper Pittsgrove,” said Freeholder Bobbitt. “Initial assessments have concluded that we have lost two bridges as a result of the storm which are located on Greenville Road and Burlington Road. We have to wait for the waters to recede to see how this storm has affected the safety of other roadways. Our first priority is the safety of our residents and we are being proactive in monitoring the roadways in conjunction with our State and local officials.”

The Office of Emergency Management declared a county-wide State of Emergency declaration at 9 PM on Sunday evening. The Office will be working with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection’s Dam Safety Division on Monday morning in order to review damage to the several lakes and dams in the County.



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“Our Office of Emergency Management works cooperatively with State and local officials to ensure an effective response to maintain public safety throughout events such as this,” said Deputy Director David Lindenmuth. “The goal of declaring a state of emergency is to assist us in requesting emergency funding to help alleviate the cost burden to our residents.”

Representatives from County Administration, Engineering, Public Works, and Emergency Management will be meeting on Tuesday morning to assess the overall financial impact of the County and what actions may be required of the Board of Chosen Freeholders at their meeting on Wednesday, August 17, 2011.

“There is no doubt that this storm will have a significant financial impact,” said Freeholder Bobbitt. “However, we are committed to ensuring that our roadways are safe for our residents and businesses. We will work with federal, state, and local partners to ensure that we are able to address these problems cooperatively and in the most effective manner.”